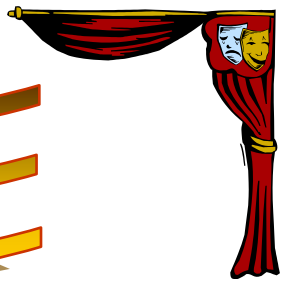


# FRONT AND CENTRE



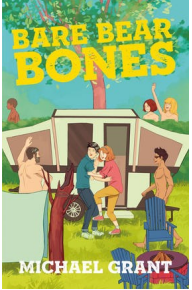
Volume 2

Newsletter of the Hanover Community Players

August 2025

## Bare Bear Bones

A big thank you to all of our audience members who took the time from their busy schedules to attend and support our *Bare, Bear Bones* shows. You are highly valued.



Thank you also to Carol Becker and her Hanover Lions team who ran our Mix and Mingle and refreshments for our shows. Did you like the cookies? The Hanover Lions Club is a much appreciated partner - we couldn't do it without them!

Director Linda Lloyd-McKenzie and Stage Manager Sam Los (who also did sound, video and set building) did a magnificent job with the cast and set. Did you wonder how we got the trailer in? Thank you to: Randy Corfield, Jessica Bedard Masse, Shane Sawyer, Rob Josephson, Bryce Murph'Ariens, Monica O'Hagen, Kristen Sutherland, and Chelsey Tam for all of the hours put learning lines, blocking and working with towels!

And we can't forget to thank our volunteer ushers in the red vests who ensure our audience is seated and looked after before, during and after our shows. They are under the direction of Marlene Dietz. If you want to volunteer as an usher, she is the person to contact.

Our valued sponsors and program advertisers make sure we can give out an excellent souvenir book.. These businesses are championing amateur theatre and our program. Please visit them.

Thank you to our hair and make-up volunteer, you were a wonderful addition!

Last but not the least, a huge round of applause to our actors who rearranged schedules at work and on the farm to be able to attend the rehearsals three times a week and then were put to work installing the set, and taking it down!

All of the above just goes to show you some of the volunteer work that is involved with amateur theatre. HCP puts on wonderful shows but our cast of volunteers are the core of our organization.



Cast, Crew, and some of the Production Team

## Grant Recognition Event



Mayor Sue Paterson, Linda Manchester, Chair, Randy Corfield, MPP Paul Vickers, Marg Poste, April Marshall, Economic Development for Hanover.

On June 17th, at the Hanover Volunteer Fair, MPP Paul Vickers presented a recognition certificate to Randy, signifying the \$28,000 Ontario Trillium Grant that HCP received in 2024. It was the grant we used to purchase more moving lights, a wireless communication system and booster chairs for use in the theatre. We are very grateful for the assistance of OTF in helping our community and its cultural programs.

Please note the background display HCP created for the **Volunteer Fair!**

## Upgrades to the Lockup

On Thurs. July 24th, (the hottest day we could possibly pick in advance) volunteers lead by Randy and Sam, gathered to create a replica of the Civic Theatre stage in our lockup. We cleaned up the area, unloaded the wood and Sam and Randy, along with Paul Murray, helped to plan the design out. We have about 1/8 of it started but will need more time and volunteers.

The stage area will allow our casts and crews to work with a set and props much earlier than the time the set goes into the theatre.

While it won't replace the work needed on the set in the theatre, it will make the transition to the stage much easier. This has been a problem raised in past surveys of our casts and production people. Many thanks to those who came out to help.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the rest of the work July 31st



Sam and Randy

## Winter Production—Fri. Feb. 27th, 2026

Because of a special event we are hosting, our winter production will be a talent show! We have several groups signed up already and we will be looking for more. Remuneration is paid. A combination of music and skits is set to entertain audiences. Snow date is Sat. Feb. 28th. More information will be available in the fall.

## Spring Production, April 24-26, May 1-3, 2026

We have a great production in mind, a comedy and one that has recently played in Toronto, but we need board approval before we can announce it! This should happen in September. Auditions are scheduled for **Sun. Nov. 2nd, or Mon. Nov. 3rd, 2025**. Randy and Marg are scheduled to co-direct. Watch for announcements on the webpage and Facebook.

We are in need of some production people for the team, specifically a Stage Manager and an Assistant Stage Manager. We can teach you but you need to have had some experience onstage or backstage to help you understand the position. If you are interested in this area, please contact us via the website.

## Western Ontario Drama League Festival

HCP has agreed to host the WODL Drama Festival, **May 14-17, 2026!**

The Western Ontario Drama League was established by D. Park Jamieson in 1932 to unite community theatre groups in Western Ontario. It covers an area from Burlington west to Sarnia and Welland, and north to Tobermory and has over two dozen member groups.

The Western Ontario Drama League exists to:

- encourage, assist and promote Community Theatre
- convene an annual Theatre Festival
- to provide education in Theatre Arts

The Western Ontario Drama League also:

- Supports the development of high quality training for member groups.
- Celebrates the best of Community Theatre through the annual WODL Theatre Festival, which is adjudicated by a professional adjudicator.
- Engages a professional adjudicator to travel throughout the Region from October to February each year, adjudicating member group productions as requested, and selecting the productions which will appear in the annual Theatre Festival.
- Develops and supports training for directors, actors and technicians through the annual Minifest weekend.
- Facilitates communication and access to resources through its association with other theatres.
- Issues a newsletter to keep their membership informed about the activities of member groups, Annual Festival and Mini-fest information, workshops in the Region, and information from other Regions.
- Maintains a web site with information on all member groups, as well as WODL programs, festivals etc .



WODL is managed by an elected board of directors who are members of one of the member groups. The Executive Officers of WODL include a Past President, President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The board also consists of Area Vice-Presidents as well as a number of standing committees, each of which has an appointed chair.

Area Vice Presidents provide a liaison between the groups in their area and the WODL Board, attend adjudications of groups in their area and assist as required.

## Volunteers

As you can see, many volunteers make up the WODL, an important organization that helps serve all of our amateur theatre groups., including HCP.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with the Festival in May but before that, we are in need volunteers to help HCP if we are to continue within the community.

## We are in need of volunteers for the following sustaining committees:

- People to work on gathering advertisements for our wonderful, professional-looking program (done once a year in the fall)
- People to plan the end-of-production social and thank-you cards to others (done for two shows a year)
- People to work on advertising our shows through various media (two shows)
- People to work on photography for the show programs and advertising (two shows)
- People to help on set construction, set moving and installation

The Hanover Community Players has been a leading group in bringing cultural opportunities for our youth and people from all walks of life, in to our area.

From 2007, HCP volunteers painted the original stage black, physically, by hand, numbered all of the old theatre seats so that reserved seating could be used for audiences; to 2023 asking our volunteers to learn the new technology for sound and light, and donating funds and equipment to the theatre, we've been a force in the community. Over almost 20 years, volunteers with HCP have worked to teach just how important theatre is in fostering creativity, improving social skills, and enhancing learning. Theatre boosts self-confidence; it provides a sense of community, and it offers opportunities for self-expression. Some of our cast and production members have, over the years, continued on with theatre in some capacity.

HCP needs volunteers that can give some sustaining help with tasks needed to keep the organization going. Committee members report to the board but don't have to attend all of the meetings. Structure has been set up to help people with the tasks needed so you're not having to go it alone. We teach!

Our theatre organization is a great way to become involved with the community.

Unfortunately, any organization that doesn't get new blood, is destined to fold through a lack of support as core members 'burn out' trying to do it all. **We need assistance to continue!**

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